

Message Text

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SUBJ: WIRE SERVICE ON SPEECH BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

REF: SEOUL 5426

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF HAPDONG WIRE SERVICE REPORT
ON SPEECH BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE CITED REFTEL.

QTE

WASHINGTON, JUNE 28 (HAPDONG) RICHARD HOLBROOKE,
ASSISTANT U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC
AFFAIRS, TODAY PUBLICLY STATED THAT PERIOD OF CONTAINMENT
OF CHINESE COMMUNISM, PERIOD OF OPPOSITION TO NORTH KOREAN
AND NORTH VIETNAMESE EFFORTS TO EXPAND THEIR CONTROL CLEARLY
ENDED."

HE MADE THE REMARKS WHEN HE SPOKE ON EAST ASIA TO U.S.
NEWSPAPER EDITORS AND NETWORK BROADCASTERS ON THE FIRST DAY OF
A TWO-DAY CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICY SPONSORED BY
THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

HIS STATEMENT CAME AS HE EXPLAINED THE APPARENT CHANGE OF
U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, FOR EXAMPLE, TO TRY TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS
WITH COMMUNIST CHINA WHICH THE U.S. HAD OPPOSED SO LONG A TIME.

WHILE HIS REMARKS CONCERNING NORTH KOREA DREW MUCH ATTENTION
AND SOME CONCERN OVER WHAT THE U.S. WOULD DO TOWARD NORTH
KOREA, U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS INTERPRETED MR.
HOLBROOKE'S REMARKS AS CONSISTENT WITH U.S. POLICY TO OPEN THE
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DOOR TO ANY COUNTRY.

THE OFFICIALS FURTHER NOTED THAT U.S. POLICY TOWARD NORTH
KOREA REMAINS SAME AS BEFORE NOT TO TALK WITH NORTH KOREA
WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF SOUTH KOREA'S REPRESENTATIVES.

"PERIOD OF U.S. CONTAINMENT OF CHINESE COMMUNISM, PERIOD
OF U.S. OPPOSITION TO NORTH KOREAN AND NORTH VIETNAMESE

EFFORTS TO EXPAND THEIR CONTROL CLEARLY ENDED IN A VERY
DRAMATIC WAY WITH THE OPENING OF CHINA, AND EVEN IN A MORE
DRAMATIC WAY WITH THE TRAGIC COLLAPSE OF INDOCHINA," HE SAID.

POINTING OUT THAT AMERICAN PEOPLE SEEM TO TURN AWAY FROM
ASIA AND THAT ASIA ITSELF IS NOW IN PEACE, HE SAID, THE U.S.
ADMINISTRATION IS LOOKING OVER THE REGION UNDER A SOMEWHAT
LOWER PRIORITY.

HOWEVER, HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE U.S. WOULD HONOR ITS
DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO SOUTH KOREA AND TAKE COMPENSATORY
MEASURES IN RETURN FOR THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND
FORCES FROM SOUTH KOREA.

THE ADMINISTRATION IS TO ASK THE CONGRESS TO AUTHORIZE THE
COMPENSATORY MEASURES SO THAT SOUTH KOREA'S MILITARY
CAPABILITIES SHOULD NOT BE REDUCED EVEN AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL,
HE STRESSED.

ADMITTING THAT THERE ARE SOME CONCERNS OVER THE PLANNED
U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA, HOLBROOKE SAID THAT THE CONCERNS
"ARE BASED ON MISUNDERSTANDING AND MISPERCEPTION OF WHAT IS
BEING DONE AND WHAT IS NOT BEING DONE."

PRESIDENT CARTER DOES NOT WISH TO TAKE ACTION TO DESTA-
BILIZE SITUATIONS IN KOREA, HE ADDED. UNQTE
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